



Sept. 15, 2006

This Week In Correction

A weekly update of events in the Tennessee Department of Correction

COMMISSIONER'S UPDATE:



Commissioner Little is encouraging all TDOC employees to support this year's Tennessee Employees Charitable Campaign if possible. The theme for this year's campaign is "Joining Together to Make a Difference." Last year state employees gave over \$548,000 to charity. This year's goal is \$575,000 for those in need.

"As we look back and reflect on recent events whether it be in our country or in our state, people have reached out and provided assistance to those who needed it most," said Commissioner Little. "This is another way to offer financial assistance to hundreds of worthy organizations, enabling them to

better serve others.

During the 2005 campaign, our staff displayed a giving heart: let's show everyone just how big it is again this year. Our community is counting on us.

ORIDELL HARVILLE:

Oridell Harville, a long-time TDOC employee, has passed away. Mr. Harville was a teacher supervisor at **DSNF**. He will be dearly missed by staff and all who knew him. His sunny disposition and willingness to help others endeared him to those who work with him and made each day a little brighter.

His dedication in the performance of his duties, and to the department as a whole, was an inspiration to all. Employees such as Mr. Harville are what make the difference between excellence and mediocrity in TDOC. The Department is missing a valuable asset today and we are truly saddened by the loss.



PLEASE REMEMBER:

After a long battle with cystic fibrosis, Shanda Cousins-Feiner, daughter of **NECX** Fiscal Director Gene Cousins, has died. Funeral services were held this week in Mountain City. Please keep Gene and his family in your prayers.

Eli Williams, father of **TPW** Correctional Principal Connie Seabrooks passed away this week. Funeral Services will be held Saturday at St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church in Wilkinsville, Tennessee. The family would like to thank you for words of comfort, calls, visits, flowers, thoughts and especially your prayers.

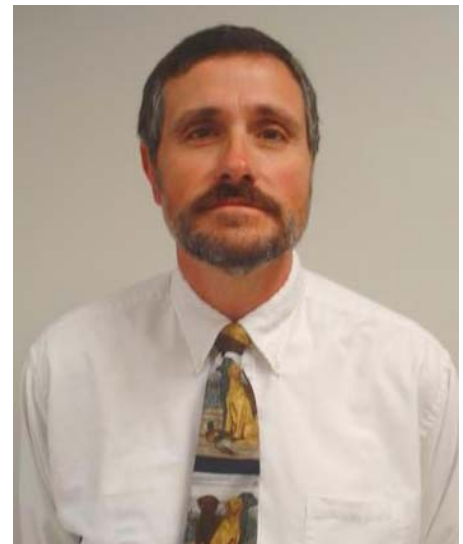
DEPUTY WARDEN NAMED AT NWCX:



Warden Mills and the staff at **NWCX** would like to congratulate Brenda Jones on her promotion to Deputy Warden. Brenda has over 24 years experience with TDOC. She began her career in 1982 as a correctional officer. From there, she worked her way up through the ranks from corporal, inmate relations coordinator, counselor, unit manager and associate warden of operations. All the staff at **NWCX** wish her well.

SIGN OF THE TIMES:

Captain Joel Foster, **NWCX**, gave teachers and administrators at Lake County Middle School a lesson in reality. Captain Foster, a 22-year TDOC veteran, visited the school for a presentation on gang signs and symbols. School officials requested Captain Foster to help make staff aware of students who become involved in gang activity.



PROFESSIONAL SECRETARY:



Warden Howard Carlton presents Mental Health Department Secretary Susan Kyte with a certificate after she received a CPS rating on the certified professional secretaries exam. **NECX** is proud to have Susan on-board.

TECHNICAL ISSUES:



Staff at **WCBC** received special training this week to begin the Technical Violator Program. The departments of probation and parole and TDOC have worked hard over the past year to design and initiate the six-month parole technical violator diversion program which is scheduled to begin on October 1st and will prepare inmates for successful re-entry into society. The

program will address treatment needs, educational opportunities and work ethic. Trainers for the program are Deputy Warden Bruce Westbrooks, Jim Dickman, Bill Gupton and Janice Hoff from Central Office. Logan Runger;MIS, Bob Croteau; TCA, Joan Pope;CCI and Tom Lorraine;Spectrum.

100-PERCENT WTSP:

Congratulations to Warden Tony Parker and staff at **WTSP** on scoring 100% on the mandatory and 98.8% on the non-mandatory ACA audit.

Pictured are auditors Cindy Williams, Carol Metz and Gary Thaggard along with Jean Mills, Administrative Assistant, Warden Parker and Assistant Commissioner Roland Colson.



END OF AN ERA:



Commissioner Little, along side Senator Douglas Henry, joined Governor Phil Bredesen in announcing an end to the decades-old civil rights lawsuit addressing equality and diversity in Tennessee's higher education system. The Geier lawsuit was named after former Vanderbilt law student Rita Sanders Geier.

"We are concluding this lawsuit and people are no longer barred from attending colleges and universities because of the color of their skin," said Governor Bredesen.



Commissioner Little with TBI Director Mark Gwyn in the Old Supreme Court Chambers at the State Capitol.

RIDER WITH A CAUSE:



David Edge, IRSS, Central Office, will be among hundreds of riders taking part in “Wings across Tennessee” this weekend. The 500-mile charity ride from Bristol to Memphis will benefit St. Jude Children’s Hospital. Riders can join in at any point along the route. There is no entry fee. David is challenging all TDOC employees to make donations to the fundraiser.

THE VOLUNTEERS:

Staff from **NWCX** volunteered their time last week to help answer phones during the 5th annual Le Bonheur telethon hosted by WYNN radio. The three-day telethon raised over \$167,000 for charity. Thanks to Lori Phillips, Vickie Thompson, Melinda Poole, Kim Shore, Joe Edwards, Jennifer Walley and Jackie Duncan for their participation.



SEMPER FI:



The date was September 6, 1967. Second Lieutenant Wayne Brandon, a young Marine, found himself in the middle of "Operation Swift" during the Vietnam War. President Lyndon B. Johnson awarded Brandon the Silver Star and Purple Heart for his bravery. Last week, staff at **TCIP** recognized Warden Brandon for his service by holding a surprise luncheon. Staff thanked the warden and all veterans for their sacrifices and protection of our liberties. Mr. Brandon's citation can be viewed at <http://www.securenet.net/3rdbn5th/brandon.htm>

It reads in part;

Second Lieutenant Brandon led a patrol out of the defensive positions to search for casualties who were separated from their unit. Returning through the darkness

with his patrol and six wounded Marines, he observed enemy emplacements that were delivering intense automatic weapons fire and mortar fire on Company K. Disregarding his own safety, he repeatedly exposed himself to the hostile fire in order to pinpoint the enemy locations to his men and enable his unit to bring accurate suppressive fire against the hostile force thereby relieving the pressure on his company. Wounded by fragments from an enemy grenade, he disregarded his painful injury and during the ensuing fire fight, led his men in silencing two machine guns and two mortar positions. Refusing medical aid for his own wound, he assisted the company commander in reorganizing the company after repulsing the enemy attack and, throughout the remainder of the night, continuously inspected the defensive positions.

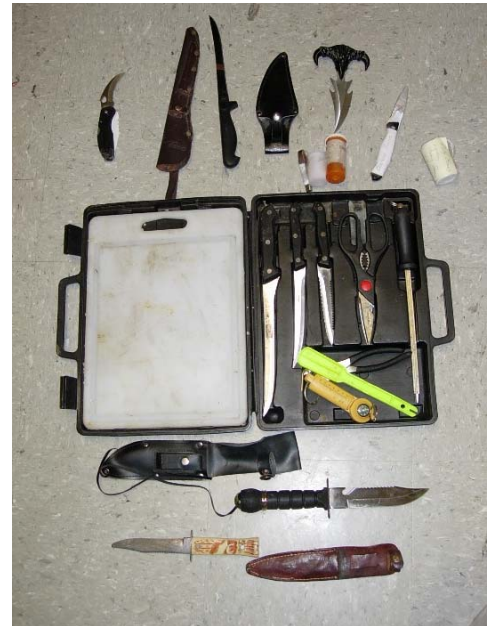
EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH:

Congratulations to Correctional Officer Teddy Bryson, **RMSI**, for being named employee of the month. Officer Bryson mans checkpoint and is a 26-year veteran of TDOC. On being named employee of the month, Officer Bryson said, "It's an honor, which means I'm doing my job." Warden Ricky Bell presented him with a certificate, a hat and a prime parking spot for the month.



WARNING IGNORED:

The signs are clearly posted at every TDOC institution but still some people, sometimes choose to ignore them. These pictures were taken of the weapons seized during a recent vehicle search at DeBerry Special Needs Facility.



Everything from knives to guns and liquor bottles were confiscated.

JULEP AND MORE:



A recent random search at **RMSI** was very successful for security staff and officers taking part in a search of cells.

Lolie Jones instructs officers on what to look for during the search.



Along with discovering julep being made in a cooler, officers also uncovered prohibited tattoo supplies in a cell.



MCCX FIELD DAY:



Tug of war was just one of the many activities inmates enjoyed during the annual field day at **MCCX**. Even a carnival cruise didn't have this much to do.

The games included horseshoes, shuffleboard, free-throw, 50-yard dash, football throw not to mention Food Service Manager Carey Newberry's arrangement of hamburgers, polish sausages served on pita bread and good ole watermelon.



STSRCF PICNIC: the end of summer

With the cool weather on the way, **STSRCF** hosted a picnic for inmates this week.

They enjoyed hamburgers, hotdogs, potato salad, coleslaw, watermelon and all the fixins.



The inmates were served on the picnic area due to the threat of rain which they enjoyed as a refreshing change.



BMCX EMPLOYEES PRAISED:



An employee recognition ceremony/luncheon was held at **BMCX** this week. 15 employees received awards including three for 30 years of dedicated service. They include Arthur Trail, Steven Armes and Thomas Neskaug. Receiving 25-year service awards were Larry Wright, Gary Murray, Bill Kennedy and Roger Potter and for 25 years of service; Edna Johnson, Gary Hall and the fabulous Jennie Jobe.

John Misch and Patricia Coffey have 15 years. Teddy Crabtree and Brenda McPeters have 10-year awards and Charlotte Shannon has put in five years. Boy, it seems like yesterday!



Congratulations and way to go Brushy employees.

COMING RIGHT ALONG:



These are the latest aerial photos of the Morgan County expansion and as you can see things are moving along smoothly and ahead of schedule. Stay tuned...there's more to come.



WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?



The Commissioner's designees and contract monitors at the three CCA facilities visited Central Office this week for their first meeting with Commissioner Little. The group was able to discuss any new concerns and issues with Central Office Staff.



A WELCOMED VISIT:

Former TDOC Fiscal Services Director Carl Hill was in the neighborhood this week and stopped by Central Office for a friendly visit. Mr. Hill served TDOC well from 1984-1995.



LIVE LIKE YOU WERE DYING:



Here's a picture I snapped of country mega-star Tim McGraw performing his hit song, "Live like you were dying" at the Ryman Auditorium this week. Thought I would include it for obvious reasons.

QUOTES OF THE WEEK:

"...Life is a game in which you are juggling 5 balls. The balls are called work, family, health, friends and integrity. And you're keeping all of them in the air. But one day you finally come to understand that work is a rubber ball. If you drop it, it will bounce back. The other four balls -- family, health, friends and integrity -- are made of glass. If you drop one of these, it will be irrevocably scuffed, nicked, perhaps even shattered. And once you truly understand the lesson of the five balls, you will have the beginnings of balance in your life."

-Submitted by Cile Crowder, Department Policy and Survey Manager, Central Office.

"The important thing is this: to be able, at any moment, to sacrifice what we are for what we could become"

-Maharish Mahesh Yogi

-Submitted by Tom Robinson, Facilities Director, Central Office.

"If you ain't first, you're last"

-Ricky Bobby, fictional NASCAR driver.

"A truly happy person is a giver, a forgiver and a thanksgiver."

-Submitted by Judy Marston, CC3, **STSRCF**